



McFARLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Note From Pastor Peter

Families enjoying supper together. Children singing really well, and loudly. Kids learning about God's goodness through a variety of teaching methods. Teens generously serving. And lots of giggles. This is Vacation Bible School 2024.



What a week we are having! Our theme is "Scuba: Diving into Friendship with God." As children move between learning centers they are immersed in underwater decorations. In one room there is even a very large whale—immense enough for the whole class to crawl into! And in the context of it all teachers and aids befriend the VBS kids, helping them to learn, and making them feel loved.

I want to thank the Family and Children's Ministry Committee for organizing VBS. Brenda, Cheryl, and Karen have been hard at work planning, organizing and equipping. Thank you to all the groups and committees who are providing supper each evening. And thank you to the many teachers, helpers, song leaders, and closing session leaders. My hunch is that the volunteers have been greatly blessed by these wonderful young kids – their joy, faith, and energy.

It is always a treat to experience Jesus' words in action: "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." (Mark 10:14-15)

P.S. This Sunday at 10am the VBS kids will sing in worship! Can't wait!

Greetings from Child Life Ministries

CLM Updates

Last week the summer crew at CLM had the opportunity to attend a Mallard's baseball game! Not only did they attend the game, but had a tour of the park, they met some players, and had lunch at the ballpark! It was a fun day that tired everyone out, including the staff.



On Friday, everyone walked down to Lily's ice cream shop and had some ice cream to

cool off. We are so blessed that the library, parks, and the ice cream shop are in perfect walking distance from CLM.

July is the month that we begin to prepare mailings and packets for the incoming fall preschoolers, school agers, and Rainbow attendees. There is lots of summer left but we always seem to work a season ahead at CLM. Its exciting to anticipate a new school year ahead!

Thank you to Chris Landerud for leading worship this week. On Thursday, "Zoo to You" is coming to visit and on Friday we'll jump into the McFarland Pool to cool off.

Have a safe week everyone!

Deb

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Annual Meeting - July 28

Our annual congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 28, following the 10:00 am worship service. We'll review the past year with reports from our Pastors, staff members and committees. We'll consider an amendment of our congregation's constitution, and we'll look forward to ways that we can continue to fulfill our mission in 2024-2025. We'll also elect new Council members, approve our 2024-2025 budget, and discuss other issues needing congregation approval. Please plan to attend to CELEBRATE the past, to PLAN for the future, and to THANK GOD for so richly blessing our congregation! (And there will be treats!)



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Church Council Member Nominees

Our congregation will be electing four new Church Council members at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, July 28, at 11:15 a.m. Four members have graciously volunteered to be nominated for a three-year term serving on our Council beginning on July 28:

- Cheryl Brown
- Anne Janelins
- Denny Schaaf
- Paul Hundt

Profile information for our four nominees is provided [here](#), so that you have an opportunity to find out a little bit about each of them prior to our July 28 Annual Meeting. **SINCERE THANKS** to Cheryl, Anne, Denny and Paul for agreeing to be nominated to serve our congregation as Church Council members!

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Puerto Rico Missions/Exploratory Group



Many of you have asked if there was a plan to restart Puerto Rico mission trips. These were trips with about 24 individuals, roughly equally split between youth and adults. With a change in the availability of the camp where we stayed and the Covid pandemic, it has been a few years since the last trip. The Global Mission committee and Youth Ministries would like to explore the possibility of restarting these trips. We want to form an exploratory group to investigate possibilities, considering factors such as where the group would stay, work projects, youth engagement, cost, and others. Ideally the group would consist of past trip participants, especially young people, plus to get some new perspectives, individuals who have not been on a P.R. mission trip. If you would be interested in being a part of this exploratory group to restart the Puerto Rican mission trips, please contact Ron Vandenberg, rdvandenberg@gmail.com.

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BIBLE STUDY

Men's bible study

First Saturday/month, 7:30 a.m

Come and join the MLC men's bible study group as we delve into God's Word and enjoy fellowship time together. We are meeting on **Saturday, August 3rd in room 125.**

Interested? Have questions?
Please contact Jeff Gehrke at
jeffgehrke59@gmail.com or Scott Potts at
scottalan23@hotmail.com

Women's bible study

First Saturday/month, 7:30 a.m

Come and join the MLC women's bible study group as we delve into God's Word and enjoy fellowship time together. We are meeting on **Saturday, August 3rd in room 210.**

Interested? Have questions?
Please contact Sheri Gehrke at
sherilgehrke@gmail.com.

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Prayer Shawl Workshop

Join us **Monday, August 5th at 6:30pm** for a prayer shawl workshop. These workshops will be held in the Gathering Space. For more information, please contact Norma Kohl.



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BOOK CLUB

Book Club Schedule

The book club **meets on the third Tuesday of the month, 10:00 am** at the Skaaen Village Clubhouse. If you have any questions, please call Cheryl Ackley at 608-838-3329. Hope to see you there.

August 20: *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See

September 17: *The Pilot's Wife* by Anita Shreve

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Stuff the Bus

Each year, a handful of McFarland community organizations and businesses (including the McFarland Lions, the Lioness Lions, the American Legion Auxiliary, One Community Bank, Nelson Bus Service, and the McFarland School District) work together to conduct a 'Stuff the Bus' campaign.



Stuff the Bus is an effort to encourage community members to donate backpacks and school supplies for low-income students in the McFarland School District, to help them deal with the expenses of the new school year. After the campaign is completed, the backpacks with school supplies are then given to children of families served by the McFarland Food Pantry (which serves the school district population).

This year's Stuff the Bus campaign runs between July 27 and Saturday, August 10. If you wish to donate backpacks or school supplies, you can drop them off at the donation box located by the office of McFarland Lutheran Church now through Sunday, August 11. Or you can drop them off in the donation boxes at the village municipal center, the McFarland Library, or McFarland Pick 'N Save between July 27 and August 10. You can also drop donations off at the high school (main entrance) between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

on Saturday, August 10. If you wish to make a cash donation, you can send a donation to the McFarland Community Food Pantry (specify 'Stuff the Bus' on the memo line of your check), PO Box 101, McFarland WI 53558, or donate online [here](#) (using PayPal or Venmo), and specify 'Stuff the Bus' in a comment.

School supplies needed: themed backpacks (grades K-5); sturdy backpacks (grades 6-12); Kleenex; black Expo dry erase markers; Notebooks (college-ruled, 1-subject); #2 wood pencils (sharpened); binder dividers; whiteboard erasers; white 1-inch 3-ring binders; yellow highlighters; yellow Post-It notes; composition notebooks (wide-ruled); felt-tip pens; pocket calculators; and Ziploc bags (gallon size).

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Weekly Calendar

Click [HERE](#) to see a list of activities for the next week.

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Join us for Worship This Weekend

10th Sunday after Pentecost

July 27/28, 2024

Sat. 5 pm Worship

Sun. 8 am Worship

Sun. 10 am Worship & Facebook Live

Thank You for Your Offering

We offer simple and secure online giving for either one-time or reoccurring donations. Click [here](#) to access our online giving page.

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Volunteer to Help in Worship

Sign up to help with worship as an usher, lector, communion server, and more! Your assistance is needed and appreciated!

Sign Up Here!

[Saturday 5PM Worship Sign-Up](#)

[Sunday 8AM Worship Sign-Up](#)

[Sunday 10AM Worship Sign-Up](#)